

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 18, 21 and 22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 21 are amended. Claim 22 is added. The amendments to the claims and the added claim introduce no new matter. Claims 9-17, 19 and 20 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims as drawn to non-elected species. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 2, rejects claims 1, 2, 5, 8 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,781,651 to Song et al. (hereinafter "Song"). The Office Action, in paragraph 4, rejects claims 3, 7 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Song. The Office Action, in paragraph 5, rejects claims 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Song, and further in view of U.S. Patents Nos. 5,429,962 to Yang and 5,546,204 to Ellis. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, and in like manner claim 21, recites, among other features, a pixel electrode and a thin film transistor disposed so as to correspond to an intersection region of the data line and the scanning line, the pixel electrode being formed above the substrate; a storage capacitor electrically connected to the thin film transistor and the pixel electrode, the storage capacitor being disposed above the substrate and below the pixel electrode; and a shielding layer disposed above the data line and below the pixel electrode.

Song teaches a method of fabricating a thin film transistor array substrate in which "a black matrix having separated portions is first formed on a substrate with an opaque conductive material, and an insulation layer is formed to cover the black matrix, then a gate line assembly and a data line assembly are formed over the black matrix and insulation layer with buffer layers formed to cover gaps between the separate portions of the black matrix at the same plane as the gate line assembly or data line assembly" (Abstract). The black matrix

of Song is formed on the substrate (col. 3, lines 23-24). An insulating layer 100 is formed on the substrate covering the black matrix (col. 3, lines 44-45). Other elements are then formed on top of the insulating layer (see, e.g., col. 3, line 51 - col. 5, line 11). These components include at least a data line assembly (col. 4, lines 10-30) and pixel electrodes (col. 5, lines 1-11). Based on these teachings of Song, the black matrix layer taught by Song (elements 90, 92, 94) cannot reasonably be considered to teach, or even to have suggested a shielding layer disposed above the data line and below the pixel electrode. In other words, the position of Song's black matrix 90 is totally different from that of the shielding layer recited in the claims. The shielding layer of the pending claims is disposed between the data line and the pixel electrode in elevation above the substrate. In other words, the shielding layer is disposed between a layer comprising the data line and a layer comprising the pixel electrode. Such a relationship is neither taught, nor would it have been suggested, by Song.

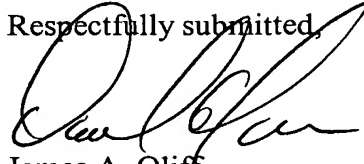
Further, claims 2-8 and 18 are neither taught, nor would they have been suggested, by Song for at least the respective dependence of these claims directly or indirectly on independent claim 1, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites. In this regard, neither Yang nor Ellis overcomes the shortfall in the application of Song to at least the features of independent claim 1.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-8, 18 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §§102(e) and 103(a) as being anticipated by Song, unpatentable over Song, or unpatentable over any combination of Song and the other applied references, are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-8, 18, 21 and 22 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Request for Continued Examination

JAO:DAT/cfr

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